

**DEPARTMENT
POLICY**

Residence and age does not normally affect eligibility. Eligibility based on alien and fugitive felon status is limited to the requirements listed in this section.

Residence

Presence in Michigan, not permanent residence, is required for State Emergency Relief (SER) eligibility.

Age

There is no minimum age requirement to apply for SER; however, if the applicant is an unemancipated minor, we must refer him/her to children's services for further evaluation.

Note: Do not delay processing the SER application pending the evaluation by services staff.

**Citizenship/
Alien Status**

A person must be a U.S. citizen or a qualified alien to be eligible.

Qualified alien means an alien who is one of the following:

- Amerasian.
- Lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the INA.
- Granted asylum under section 208 of the INA.
- A refugee who is admitted to the U.S. under section 207 of the INA.
- Paroled into the U.S. under section 212(d)(5) of the INA for a period of at least 1 year.
- An alien whose deportation is being withheld under section 241(b)(3) or 243(h) of the INA.
- Granted conditional entry pursuant to section 203(a)(7) of the INA.
- A Cuban/Haitian entrant.

- An alien who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the U.S. by a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident spouse or parent, or by a member of the spouse or parent's family living in the same household, or is the parent or child of a battered person; see BEM 225, Citizenship/Alien Status.
- Nonimmigrant (student).

Fugitive Felons

Effective April 8, 2015, this policy is suspended.

Fugitive felons are not eligible, **their presence disqualifies** the group.

Groups With Undocumented Alien(s)

Undocumented aliens are not eligible, **but their presence does not disqualify the group**. The following applies to all households containing one or more undocumented aliens:

- Any member of the household may apply.
- Include all household members for purposes of determining eligibility for SER.
 - Include the income and assets of all household members.
 - For shelter and energy services, include all household members when determining required payments, affordability, etc.
- Prorate the benefit for the U.S. citizens and legal aliens only. See ERM 208, Budget Procedures, for the prorated payment calculation.

Note: Households must meet all other SER eligibility requirements.

Verification Requirements

Verify the Social Security number of each household member as well as the status of each person identified as an alien. See BEM 225 for acceptable verification sources.

The data match with the Social Security Administration is sufficient verification of citizenship.

When an individual does not have a Social Security number, provide an SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, or refer them to <http://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber> for application instructions.

LEGAL BASE

MAC R400.7001 et seq.

MAC R400.7021